"Chalo Khet Ki Aur" Radio Programme

1342. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had, of late, decided to launch a sponsored radio programme "Chalo Khet ki Aur", with a view to making the farmers' community aware about various Government schemes beneficial to them;

(b) whether the proposed programme was to be broadcast from various stations of AIR in Hindi and other regional languages, simultaneously;

(c) if so, whether broadcast of the above programme has since commenced; if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by which date this programme is likely to come on the air?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) To start with the programme will be broadcast in Hindi on a limited number of All India Radio Stations.

(c) and (d) The production of audio spots has commenced. The broadcast of the programme will commence after adequate software, in terms of audio spots are in stock so as to ensure continuity of the broadcast of the programme.

Distribution of land among landless labourers

1343. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:
SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether lakhs of acres of cultivable land are in disuse throughout the country;

(b) whether Government propose to distribute such cultivable land to landless farm labourers in the greater interest;

(c) if so, the action plan in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) The lands under culturable Waste lands, Fallow lands and other degraded lands are underutilized with